Wake Forest Debate awards—1997-98

1997-1998 season sets stage for future victories

The prognosis for the 1997-1998 season was captured by the cliché “rebuilding year.” Expectations were high, with a squad populated by perhaps Wake’s best recruiting class in history, but realism dictated modest prospects. Coming off the “National Championship” year buoyed spirits, but the squad was relatively young with only one team member graduating. Although Wake was an unassuming contender for a repeat national title, the year nevertheless held many surprises and strong tournament finishes. Highlights included qualifying the maximum three teams for the National Debate Tournament held at the University of Utah; top speaker and semi-finals team at Novice Nationals, and the winning of “upper-middle” tournaments at North Carolina and Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City. Wake teams earned trophies at seventeen of twenty tournaments the squad attended.

Championships and Final Rounds

University of South Carolina, Round Robin, 2nd Place, Jarrod Atchison & Justin Green
University of North Carolina, 1st Place (Tie), Andy Geppert & Wesley Lotz
University of North Carolina, 1st Place (Tie), Justin Green & Jarrod Atchison
The Kansas City Swing, 1st Place Squad Sweepstakes
University of Missouri-Kansas City, 1st Place, Jarrod Atchison & Justin Green
University of Kansas, 2nd Place, Justin Green & Andy Geppert
District VI NDT Qualifiers, 2nd Place, Emma Filstrup & Ken Rufo
District VI NDT Qualifier, 3rd Place, Justin Green & Jarrod Atchison
District VI NDT Qualifier, 4th Place, Michael Bonura & Cyclone Covey

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Fall debate retreat, Wake Forest Lodge, Fancy Gap, Virginia

Keep in touch electronically

Check out the “continually new” Wake Debate Homepage

Find current tournament results, four photo galleries with many historical pictures, NDT and Wake Debate history, and much more!

http://www.wfu.edu/~debate

Send us your e-mail address and we will add you to a three-times-a-year Electronic Debate Update

Feel free to send us interesting pictures to add to the home page. We’ll scan them and return the pictures to you. We also can accommodate attached files of pictures you scan.
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SEMI-FINALISTS

University of Kentucky, Freshman Breakout,
Liz Ellis & Michael Bonura
District VI NDT Qualifier, 5th Place, Clay
Rhodes & Andy Geppert
Novice Nationals, Northwestern Univ.,
Andy Ryan & Jarrod Atchison

QUARTER-FINALISTS

Liberty University, Var., Michael Bonura &
Mario DeMarco
Liberty University, JV, Thomas Allen & Rob
Shaw
University of Southern California, Var.,
Clay Rhodes & Andy Geppert
California State University-Long Beach,
Var., Andy Ryan & Emma Filstrup
Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City, Var., Cyclone
Covey & Michael Bonura
William Jewell College, Var., Justin Green &
Jarrod Atchison
State University of West Georgia, Var., Andy
Geppert & Clay Rhodes
Baylor University, Jarrod Atchison & Justin
Green
Novice Nationals, Northwestern Univ., Liz
Ellis & Wesley Lotz

OCTA-FINALISTS

University of North Carolina - Andy Ryan &
Clay Rhodes
University of North Carolina - Emma
Filstrup & Cyclone Covey
University of Southern California - Emma
Filstrup & Andy Ryan
William Jewell College - Cyclone Covey &
Michael Bonura
State University of West Georgia - Emma
Filstrup & Ken Rufo
Baylor University - Andy Geppert & Clay
Rhodes
Novice Nationals, Northwestern Univ.,
Cyclone Covey & Michael Bonura
Novice Nationals, Northwestern Univ., Amy
Powell & Mark Yopp

DOUBLE-OCTA-FINALISTS

University of South Carolina - Emma
Filstrup & Cyclone Covey
University of Northern Iowa - Clay Rhodes
& Andy Ryan
University of Northern Iowa - Andy Geppert
& Wesley Lotz

University of Southern California - Liz Ellis &
Wesley Lotz
Baylor University - Ken Rufo & Emma
Filstrup
U.S. Naval Academy - Amy Powell & Mark
Yopp
Northwestern University - Jarrod Atchison &
Justin Green
Northwestern University - Cyclone Covey &
Michael Bonura
University of Kansas - Emma Filstrup & Ken
Rufo
National Debate Tournament - Clay Rhodes
& Andy Geppert
National Debate Tournament - Jarrod
Atchison & Justin Green

CUT-ON-POINTS

University of Kentucky - Justin Green &
Jarrod Atchison
University of North Carolina - Amy Powell
& Mark Yopp
University of North Carolina - Liz Ellis &
Michael Bonura
Capitol City Debates - Jarrod Atchison &
Justin Green
Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City - Thomas
Allen & Mario DeMarco
State University of West Georgia - Justin
Green & Jarrod Atchison

State University of West Georgia - Michael
Bonura & Cyclone Covey
Northwestern University - Emma Filstrup &
Ken Rufo

SPEAKER AWARDS - 1997-1998

University of South Carolina, Round Robin -
6th - Justin Green
University of North Carolina - 8th - Andy
Ryan
University of North Carolina - 16th - Jarrod
Atchison
University of North Carolina - 17th Andy
Geppert
University of North Carolina - 18th Clay
Rhodes
Liberty University - 11th Michael Bonura
Liberty University - JV, 1st Thomas Allen
University of Southern California - 18th
Andy Ryan
California State Univ.-Long Beach - 7th Andy
Ryan
California State Univ.-Long Beach - 15th
Emma Filstrup
University of Missouri-Kansas City - 5th
Justin Green
University of Missouri-Kansas City - 6th
Jarrod Atchison
William Jewell College - 8th, Justin Green
William Jewell College - 10th, Jarrod
Atchison
State University of West Georgia - 15th, Clay
Rhodes
Baylor University - 17th, Clay Rhodes
US Naval Academy - 9th, Amy Powell
Univ. of Kansas - 15th, Justin Green
District VI NDT Qualifier - 2nd, Clay
Rhodes
District VI NDT Qualifier - 5th, Emma
Filstrup
District VI NDT Qualifier - 8th, Andy
Geppert
District VI NDT Qualifier - 10th, Justin
Green
District VI NDT Qualifier - 12th, Jarrod
Atchison
District VI NDT Qualifier - 13th, Ken Rufo
District VI NDT Qualifier - 14th, Michael
Bonura
Novice Nationals, Northwestern - 1st, Andy
Ryan
Novice Nationals, Northwestern - 6th,
Michael Bonura
Novice Nationals, Northwestern - 8th,
Cyclone Covey
Novice Nationals, Northwestern - 9th,
Jarrod Atchison
Alumni briefs

Catching up

R. Paul Caudill (29) is a columnist for Scripps Howard News Service, syndicated in over 350 papers.

Keith H. Griffin (MA ’72), President of Organization Development Associates, Inc. in Davidson, NC.

J. Sam Johnson, Jr. (’54) is a trial lawyer in Greensboro, NC. He credits part of his legal success from learning open-mindedness and the Socratic method in his debating.

Doris Taylor McDonald (’54) writes from Rock Hill, SC recalling that “debate was one of her most significant college experiences” and that “Dr. Shirley (fessor) pulled it all together and made each of us feel important.”

Roger McManis, Jr., (’72, MBA ’78) recalls sharing room with the incomparable Franklin R. Shirley at D.C. tournament.

Kim Metzler dropped by this summer.

Good to see him and family. He is running his music store in Lantana, FL.

Robert Poplin, Jr. (’33), became a major education figure in NC as Principal and Superintendent of major school systems, and a civic leader in Surry County. He relates that Wake Forest and debate training have served him well.

Martha Ann (Allen) Turnage (’44), Retired from VP for University Relations at Ohio University to Annapolis Maryland, where she has written two books.

Jim Wheaton (’xx), Practicing Law, raising a growing family, and subduing school board politics in Norfolk, VA

Marriages

Camille and Nate French, Summer
Kara and Mark Grant, August 8
Jennifer & Jason Grimes, November 28
Ann and Tim O’Donnell, December
Nessa & Ken Rufo, September
Elana & Max Schnurer, October 23
Rebecca & Mike Seezen, August
Melissa & Bryan Yeazel, July 25

New Arrivals

Alan and Laura Coverstone, baby boy
Janette & Star Muir, baby boy
Joe and Julie Peery, baby boy

Transitions

Adrienne Brovero has started the Ph. D. Program at Northwestern University.

Bob Chandler has accepted a teaching position at Pepperdine University.

David Chesher received the National Communication Association Dissertation of the Year Award. He teaches at Georgia State University in Atlanta.

Chris Cooper is a Washington Lobbyist and coach at George Washington Univ.

Vickie Leonard Henderson moved to New York with her work in non-profit organizations.

Bill Newnam, Emory University’s debate coach, was named “Coach of the Year” at the 98th Univ. of South Carolina Tournament.

Scott O’Donnell is working in banking in England.

Brian Prestes is in law school at the Univ. of Chicago.

Shannon Redmond has accepted a position with the Emory Univ. Debate program.

Mike Ridge and Robin Ploig will be moving. Mike has accepted at post-doctorate position in Australia.

Ken Rufo started his Ph. D. program at the University of Georgia.

Lyle Scruggs finished his Ph. D. at Duke and accepted a teaching position at the Univ. of Connecticut.

Bill Shanahan finished his Ph. D. at Texas and accepted a teaching position at Ft. Hayes State Univ., KS.

Jeff Sodko, ’93, finished at Wake Forest and is practicing labor law in Atlanta.

Jordana Sternberg finished at Texas and is practicing law in Atlanta.

Courtney Smith entered law school at Yale.

Alumni help with scholarship fund

Several alumni have helped build the Franklin R. Shirley Memorial Scholarship Fund. Some are now designating their annual Wake Forest contributions be directed to the fund.

The Shirley Scholarships were founded in 1986 and have helped dozens of Wake Forest debaters meet the rising costs of college. Each year the fund provides 5-6 $1000 scholarship to the program. This supplemental financial assistance often makes the difference for students deciding whether or not to debate or attend Wake Forest.

Contributions to the Franklin R. Shirley Debate Scholarship can be made with University Advancement, Box 7227, Reynolds Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27109. Substantial giving can be discussed with a Development Officer at (336) 758-5224.

Debate in Japan parallels U.S. competition

By Tomohiro Kanke, Asst. Coach

Japanese students usually start academic debate as an extracurricular activity in their freshman year in the university. Each university has a club, the ESS (English Speaking Society), which students join to acquire a communicative English speaking skills. Debate is practiced as one of its activity, in an attempt to learn both English and argumentation.

There are about 7 national level college tournaments in a year and most of them are run by students or former debaters. Most tournaments employ American NDT style debate, where students improve their skills in a competitive environment.

During the last decade there has been a growing interest in debate in Japanese society as well. Many individuals other than college students are starting to learn debate in various ways, including business clubs, parliamentary debate, and debating in Japanese. It is important for Japan and the Unites States to cooperate with each other in debate education in the hope that debate would be able to enhance mutual understanding among Japanese and Americans.
News in brief—
Fall 1998

NATIONAL EARLYBIRD

Wake Debate hosted 1400 people for the Annual WFU National Earlybird Forensics Tournament. Students from 165 HS from around the nation competed in Team Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and Individual Events at campus, North Forsyth HS and Mt. Tabor HS in the three day September event. Montgomery Bell Academy, coached by Wake Alumni Alan Coverstone, won the varsity debate division.

TRAVEL SEASON STARTS UPBEAT

Fourteen Wake debate teams have seen competition in the yet young season and a couple more wait in the wings. The beginning tournaments showed strong results. Wake teams have debated 178 rounds and have met 53 Universities and Colleges one or more times.

SOUTH CAROLINA ROUND ROBIN

Wes Lotz (Soph., Houston, TX) & Cyclone Covey (Soph., Atlanta, GA) reached the Semi-Finals of the U. South Carolina Round Robin tournament. 14 invited teams from around country competed.

SOUTH CAROLINA TOURNAMENT

Amy Powell (Soph., Elizabeth City, NC) & Mark Yopp (Soph., Nashville, TN) cleared at the regular South Carolina tournament, reaching the Double Octas round.

UNIV. OF NORTHERN IOWA

Seniors Clay Rhodes (Orange, TX) & Justin Green (Caty, TX) reached the round of sixteen in a field of nearly 75 teams of the UNI tournament in their season opener.

KENTUCKY ROUND ROBIN

Clay Rhodes & Justin Green were invited to the prestigious KY Round Robin. The nation’s top nine teams are invited. They earned a 6-2 record and tied for first place in the tournament. In the competition they defeated the defending national championship team from Northwestern.

KENTUCKY - HENRY CLAY DEBATES

The Wake team of Andy Ryan (Soph., Shreveport, LA) and Cyclone Covey reached the final round of the largest Kentucky tournament in years (117 teams). They lost in finals to Dartmouth on a 2-1. Rhodes & Green (Octas) as well as Andy Geppert (Sr., Dahlonega, GA) and Jarrod Atchison (Soph., Shreveport, LA) (D-Octas) also made the elimination rounds, perhaps the toughest cut of the year. Ryan was the 4th speaker, Rhodes 6th, and Green 20th individual speakers in the 234 debater field.

UNIV. OF RICHMOND

Wake’s JV and Novice debaters opened their season with a strong showing at Richmond. Freshmen LeeAnn Quartucci (Bronx, NY) & Urmi Engineer (Charlotte, NC) reached the finals of JV debate. Clint Watson (Soph, Erlanger, KY) & Rafa Guigou (Sr., Sanibel, FL) were semi-finals in novice debate. They met WFU’s Susie Eggers (Jr., O’Fallon, IL) and Andy Yates (Fr., Harrisburg, NC) in the Octa-finals round. Watson was 4th speaker & Will Hunt (Sr., Lancaster, PA) 9th Speakers in Novice and Quartucci was 8th in JV.

PUBLIC DEBATE WITH
ASSISTED LIVING HOMES

Wake Public debaters, Becca Suits (Jr., Greensboro) and Nathan McCarroll (Fr., Cabot, AR) presented a public debate for the Manor House Retirement Community on the advisability of impeachment. A series of programs for similar settings are planned.

CAPITOL CITIES DEBATES

Junior Emma Filstrup (Alexandria, VA) and Wes Lotz reached the semi-finals of the Cap Cities Debates hosted at Georgetown Univ. Andy Geppert and Mike Perry (Fr, Boise, ID) reached the Octa-Finals after compiling a 5-1 prelim record. Freshmen Chris DeVault (Shreveport, LA) and Michelle Neidigh (The Woodland, TX) were cut on point. Filstrup was 3rd Speaker, Geppert; 6th, and Lotz 10th.

HARVARD UNIV. DEBATES

Wake Debate Teams broke through again at the Harvard Debate Tournament Halloween weekend. In the strong field of 74 teams, two Wake Forest teams reached the Semi-finals. Andy Ryan & Cyclone Covey (7-1 prelims) lost in Semi-finals while Clay Rhodes & Justin Green (6-2) reached the final round before losing to defending NDT champ Northwestern. Additionally two Wake teams were 5-3 and missed the final 16 by points—Emma Filstrup & Wes Lotz; Jarrod Atchison & Andy Geppert.

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY DEBATES

Freshman Andrea Will (Grand Rapids, WI) and Sophomore Jason Gronberg (Alexandria, VA) won 1st place in varsity debate. Wake teams of Mark Yopp & Amy Powell and Liz Ellis (Soph, Atlanta, GA) and Chris DeVault reached the varsity quarter-finals. Thomas Allen (Soph., Round Rock, TX) & Jon Kimbro (Freshman, Albuquerque, NM) were cut-on-points. Novice debaters Clint Watson and Rafa Guigou placed 1st in the 40 novice team field. Susie Eggers & Erin Grall (Senior, Vero Beach, FL) were in Octa-Finals. Powell was 5th speaker and Gronberg was 8th.

REMAINING FALL SEMESTER SCHEDULE

Appalachian State Univ. Wake Forest’s Franklin R. Shirley Dixie Classic, Largest collegiate varsity tournament of the year.

Students question topic expert at 1998 Summer Debate Workshop.
was the Youth Governor of the Idaho, and is a Carswell scholar here at Wake. Mike is thinking about majoring in either politics or economics. When he gets the time, Mike likes to ski, mountain bike, backpack, and engage in other outdoor activities.

Lee Anne Quattrucci (Bronx, New York) is a first year who debated for Bronx Science for 3 years. Her senior year was exemplary, breaking to elimination at St. Mark's, Emory, Stanford, Redlands, Berkeley, USC, and Newburgh, and winning the Lakeland Tournament. Lee Anne intends to major in politics and minor in women studies. She also enjoys writing, reading, and playing soccer.

Andrea Will (Grand Rapids, MI) is a first year from East Kentwood High School. A four year debater, Andrea is the reigning Michigan state champion. She wants to study politics and philosophy. When she gets the time, she does volunteer work.

Novice Debaters:

Susie Eggers, a junior from O'Fallon, Illinois is finding time to debate, even as she undertakes the unrelenting schedule that accompanies serving as the Wake Forest University Student Body President.

Chad Flick, a sophomore from New Orleans is tackling debate after a successful HS (CFL finals) extemporaneous individual events career. He is camper and hiker - go figure.

Erin Grall is a senior from Vero Beach Florida. She maintains a high profile in campus leadership roles and is a regional director of students working with residence life.

Will Hunt, a senior from Lancaster Pennsylvania is the person everyone on campus knows. His social life revolved around his fraternity and his interests in communication, soccer & kendo.

Andy Yates joins the teams as a freshman from Harrisburg, N.C. In High School he performed and competed in Marching Band competitions—regional champions, national semi-finalists.